

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A gas barrier coating composition, comprising:

an inorganic layered compound dispersion (c), wherein an inorganic layered compound (b) is dispersed using a peroxide (a) in a dispersion medium, and

a gas barrier resin (d); and

wherein a mixture containing the peroxide (a) and inorganic layered compound (b) in a mixing ratio by mass of (a)/(b) = 2/1 to 1/1000 is dispersion treated in a high speed stirring apparatus and/or a high pressure dispersing apparatus wherein the inorganic layered compound (b) is montmorillonite.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Previously Presented) The gas barrier coating composition according to claim 1, wherein hydrogen peroxide is used as the peroxide (a).

4-5. (Canceled)

6. (Previously Presented) The gas barrier coating composition according to claim 1, wherein the total content of the inorganic layered dispersion (c) and gas barrier resin (d) in the gas barrier coating composition is 1 to 30% by mass and the mass ratio (c)/(d) is 30/70 to 70/30.

7. (Previously Presented) The gas barrier coating composition according to claim 1, which contains, as the gas barrier resin (d), at least one resin selected from the group consisting of polyvinyl alcohol-based resins and ethylene-vinyl alcohol-based resins.

8. (Previously Presented) A gas barrier composite plastic film or sheet, which is obtainable by applying the gas barrier coating composition according to claim 1 to at least one of the surfaces of a film or sheet of a plastic selected from the group consisting of polyolefins, polyesters, polyamides and polystyrene in a coating weight to give a dry film thickness of 0.1 to 100 μm .

9. (Original) A gas barrier packaging container, which is obtainable by molding the gas barrier composite plastic film according to Claim 8.

10. (Original) A gas barrier packaging container, which is obtainable by molding the gas barrier composite plastic sheet according to Claim 8.

11. (Previously Presented) A gas barrier packaging container, which is obtainable by applying the gas barrier coating composition according to claim 1 to a plastic container molded in the form of a tube, tray, cup, box or bottle in a coating weight to give a dry film thickness of 0.1 to 100 μm .

12. (Original) A gas barrier packaging container, which is formed of a composite layer consisting of paper and the gas barrier composite plastic film or sheet according to Claim 8.

13. (Previously Presented) A process for producing a gas barrier coating composition according to claim 1,

comprising the step of producing the inorganic layered compound dispersion (c) by admixing a peroxide (a) and an inorganic layered compound (b) in a dispersion medium in a mixing ratio by mass of (a)/(b) = 2/1 to 1/1000 and further treating the resulting mixture in a high speed stirring apparatus and/or a high pressure dispersing apparatus to cleave and distribute the inorganic layered compound (b) in the dispersion medium.